26. (Amended) A filtration device as in claim 24, wherein the filtration device is configured for installing into a water sprayer of a sink assembly so that filtered water may be provided from the sprayer.

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27. A filtration device as in claim 24, wherein said core is cylindrically shaped.

28. A filtration device as in claim 24, wherein the spirally wound filtration media comprises a laminate of filter media.

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 28 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 5 through 8, 10 through 14, 17 through 20, 22 through 24, and 26 through 28 stand rejected under § 102(b) as anticipated by Degen '446. Claims 9, 21, and 25 stand rejected under § 103(a) as unpatentable over Degen '446 in further view of Hiasa '595. Claims 3, 4, 15, and 16 stand rejected under § 103(a) as unpatentable over Degen '446, Hiasa '595, and in further view of Pall '995.

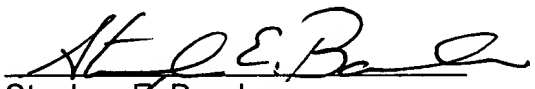
In the present Amendment, independent claims 1, 13, and 24 have been amended to more particularly define the spiral wound nature of the filter element. As amended, the spiral wound filter element distinguishes over the helix arrangement disclosed in Degan '446. In particular, the independent claims now set forth that the filter media is spirally wound with generally complete overlap between the adjacent layers thereof. With the complete overlap, the edges of the adjacent layers are thus aligned in a common plane. There is no spiraling overlap of the layers as required by the system of Degen '446. The purpose of the filtration device according to Degen '446 is to provide a tapered porosity gradient in the direction of the fluid flow by providing generally decreasing pore ratings in the filtration medium in the direction of fluid flow.

To accomplish this, Degen '446 expressly describes that the filtration media is helically wrapped around the core element. For example, the reference describes that the overlapping may vary as much as 95 percent, with a preferred range of overlap being between 25 percent to 75 percent. The reference goes on to describe that, in the overlapping configuration, care must be taken to ensure that wrinkling of the filter medium does not result due to the variable outer diameter of the helically overlapped layers as one layer is partially placed over the top of itself as well as the preceding layer. This helical wrapping configuration of the filtration media is an important feature of Degen '446.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that, as amended and presented herein, each of the independent claims 1, 13, and 24 patentably distinguishes over Degen '446 and is allowable. Favorable action thereon is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at his convenience to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

DORITY & MANNING, P.A.

By: 

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Claim Worksheets for 09/712,085 (KCX-224)

1. (Amended) A filtration device, comprising:

an unfiltered fluid inlet surface, through which unfiltered fluid may enter the filtration device;

a first filter media in fluid communication with the unfiltered fluid inlet surface, said first filter media being spirally wound and being positioned with respect to said unfiltered fluid inlet surface so that unfiltered fluid entering the filtration device through the unfiltered fluid inlet surface is directed to flow radially inward and through the first filter media, said first filter media being spirally wound with generally complete overlap between adjacent layers such that edges of said layers are generally aligned in a common plane;

a core in fluid communication with the first filter media, said core having a surface that defines apertures, said core being positioned with respect to said spirally wound first filter media so that filtered fluid flowing radially inward from the first filter media flows into the core, said core having a first end and a second end with said first end being open so that filtered fluid may exit the core and with said second end being closed so that the flow of fluid through the second end is prevented; and

a filtered fluid outlet in fluid communication with the first end of the core so that filtered fluid flowing from the first end of the core exits the filtration device through the filtered fluid outlet.

13. (Amended) A filtration device, comprising:

an unfiltered fluid inlet, through which unfiltered fluid may enter the filtration device;

a core in fluid communication with the unfiltered fluid inlet, said core having a surface defining apertures therein so that unfiltered fluid may flow from the unfiltered fluid inlet and radially outward through the core;

said core having a first end and a second end, wherein said first end is open so that unfiltered fluid may enter the core and wherein said second end is closed so that flow of fluid through the second end is prevented;

a first filter media in fluid communication with the core, said filter media being spirally-wound around the surface of the core so that fluid flowing from the core may flow radially outward through the apertures and into the first filter media, said first filter media being spirally wound with generally complete overlap between adjacent layers such that edges of said layers are generally aligned in a common plane; and

a filtered fluid outlet surface in fluid communication with the first filter media so that filtered fluid from the first filter media may exit the filtration device through the filtered fluid outlet surface.

24. (Amended) A filtration device, comprising:

a housing defining an interior volume, an inlet for allowing fluid to be filtered to enter the volume, and an outlet for filtered fluid to exit the volume;

a core located within the volume, the core defining a chamber; at least one aperture allowing fluid communication through the core and into the chamber; and an exit orifice in fluid communication with the outlet; and,

a spirally wound filtration media located within the volume and configured so that fluid entering the volume from the inlet is directed to flow radially inward and through the

filtration media, through the core, and into the chamber and out of the outlet, said filtration media being spirally wound with generally complete overlap between adjacent layers such that edges of said layers are generally aligned in a common plane.